

usable by different service devices to enable a short conversion process onto a new postage fee schedule table independently of the device type.

{The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4 has been amended as follows:}

*Ad*

The above objects are achieved in accordance with the principles of the present invention in a method and apparatus for data input into a service device wherein service data are loaded on demand in a communication between the service device and a data center remote therefrom, wherein the service device formulates a status report identifying current memory occupancy of service data and transmits the status report to the data center, wherein the data center formulates recommendations for a future memory occupancy state in the service device dependent on the service data at the data center which will be transmitted to the service device, and these recommendations are transmitted in a message from the data center to the service device, and wherein the service device, upon receipt of the message, checks the recommendations therein for feasibility in the service device, and wherein the service data are subsequently transmitted from the data center to the service device and loaded therein according to one of the recommendations.

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